

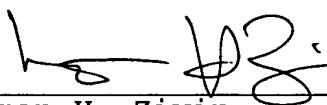
REMARKS

The claims pending in the PCT application have been amended to eliminate multiple dependent claims. New claims 1 through 6 are presented for examination.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 14, 2000 By:

  
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